

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :

Wolfgang HALFBRODT et al. :

Group Art Unit: 1625

Serial No.: 09/759,360 :

Examiner: B. M. Robinson

Filed: January 16, 2001 :

For: 1, 2 DIARYLBENZIMIDAZOLES AND THEIR PHARMACEUTICAL USE

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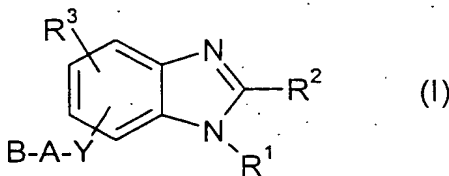
Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 19, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-13 and 15-17 as follows:

--1. (Twice Amended) A benzimidazole compound according to formula I



in which

R^1 means a monocyclic or bicyclic C_{6-12} aryl group or a monocyclic or bicyclic 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group with 1-4 heteroatoms selected from the group that consists of N, S or O, wherein said aryl or heteroaryl group is unsubstituted or is substituted with up to three of the following substituents, independently of one another:

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